

# 2022 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

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## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 654

Offered June 3, 2022

*Commending the Virginia Association of Addiction Professionals.*

Patron—Bell

WHEREAS, for more than five decades, the Virginia Association of Addiction Professionals has served, supported, and advanced Virginia's addiction professionals and Virginia's recovery communities by providing, enhancing, and ensuring education, ethical standards, and a strong peer and professional network; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Association of Addiction Professionals (VAAP) was initially established in 1970 as the Tidewater Association of Professionals Interested in Substance Abuse (TAPISA); and

WHEREAS, in 1972, TAPISA joined other likeminded organizations to establish the National Association of Alcoholism Counselors and Trainers with the primary objective of developing a field of professional counselors with professional qualifications and backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, TAPISA subsequently became known as the Virginia Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors in the 1970s and as the Virginia Association of Addiction Professionals in 2013; and

WHEREAS, VAAP has helped ensure the highest quality help for all Virginians by continuously providing training and education opportunities for the Commonwealth's addiction professionals, including by establishing the annual Virginia Summer Institute of Addiction Studies, one of the most highly regarded training events in the United States; and

WHEREAS, VAAP has advocated tirelessly and at every level on behalf of Virginia's addiction professionals, including by establishing the Virginia Recovery Coalition in conjunction with similar organizations; and

WHEREAS, VAAP has cultivated an engaging network of certified substance abuse counselors, addiction counselors, peer support specialists, and therapists, including those in the military community, to ensure that its members have opportunities for professional development and a broad understanding of best practices in the fields of addiction and recovery; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Virginia Association of Addiction Professionals hereby be commended on the occasion of its 52nd anniversary of support for the Commonwealth's addiction professionals, who have saved countless lives throughout the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia Association of Addiction Professionals as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect and appreciation for its efforts to enhance substance abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery programs in the Commonwealth and provide essential services to Virginians in need.

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